

Only three  
issues left!  
Break out  
the Kleenex!

# THE ECHO

TAYLOR UNIVERSITY STUDENT NEWS

THIS ISSUE

Pg. 2: Looking for beauty in Indiana? Open your eyes.  
Pg. 3: Prayer for 'Conversations' leads to campus-wide involvement  
Pg. 4: Track, softball and baseball

Volume LXXXVIII, No.20

Friday, April 27, 2001

Upland, Indiana

## Family values 'bountiful' in spring play

BY JENNY ROGERS  
STAFF WRITER

The Taylor University Theater Department will present a dramatic story tonight that crosses the barriers of generation and gender, and will give everyone new insight into who they are.

Horton Foote's "The Trip to Bountiful" is the story of Carrie Watts, an elderly woman who is searching for her identity and a little dignity by going back to her roots. However, Watts is not just a "little old lady;" she is a feisty woman who can laugh at herself and who knows what is important in life.

Bountiful is a fictional Texas town on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, and throughout the course of the play, it becomes a symbol of hope. To Watts, played by junior Hilary Scott, it is a symbol of stability, family and all that is good. However to her son Ludie, played by freshman Adam Van Conant, it is a reminder of painful memories that he refuses to face. Watts lives in Houston with her son and his wife, Jessie May, played

by senior Jen Norris. Jessie May is entirely preoccupied with her appearance and drinking Coca-Cola, and wants nothing to do with Bountiful.

Scott said that although it is challenging to portray an elderly woman, she has been motivated by looking beneath the surface of the character and understanding who this woman really is and what is important to her.

One of the play's greatest virtues is that it is an authentic exploration of the human experience. Director Jan Pletcher, assistant professor of communication arts, felt a great responsibility to the authentic nature of the play and has gone to great lengths to make every detail, from wardrobe to props, as authentic as possible.

This is Pletcher's directorial debut at Taylor, and she said that she has had tremendous cooperation from both the cast and the crew. Rob Bley, one of the assistant directors, said, "We were all on the same page."

The cast and crew have been in production since just before

spring break, and have put in long, hard hours to make it the masterpiece that audiences will see this weekend and next. One of the special touches Pletcher has given to "Bountiful" is the addition of original scenes that will allow the audience to see Watts' memories of her life in Bountiful.

Senior Carrie Hartzler, who plays Thelma, a woman who meets Watts on the bus trip back to Bountiful, said that she thinks this scene recreation is one of the most interesting parts about the play.

"It really takes you to Bountiful," Hartzler said. "You can really see what Mrs. Watts is thinking. You see her story happening through her eyes."

Pletcher described "Bountiful" as a play "about family and about our roots- who we are."

Hartzler capitalized on this aspect of the play, by applying it to her own life.

"This is such a great play," she said, "because it tells such a neat story about our lives. As a



Photo by Bryan Smith

**HILARY SCOTT AND ADAM VANCONANT** rehearsing for "The Trip to Bountiful." The play is a story of an elderly woman who is searching for her identity and a little dignity by going back to her roots.

younger person, it's neat to see how an older woman thinks about her past."

Tickets for "The Trip to Bountiful" are available for \$6 at

the Rupp Communications Arts Center. Additional performances are April 28 and May 3, 4 and 5. All shows begin at 8 p.m. and take place in Mitchell Theatre.

## Math team places second in the annual Indiana Collegiate Mathematics Contest

RACHEL HEPWORTH  
STAFF WRITER

The Taylor University math team finished second in the Indiana Collegiate Mathematics Contest at the University of Indianapolis on March 23.

The team was comprised of juniors Noah DeLong, Shawn Alspaugh and David Aukeman. This is the first time Taylor has placed in the top three in this competition.

The contest, organized by the Mathematical Association of America, consisted of 27 teams of up to three students from colleges all over Indiana. The students worked for two hours on six complex mathematical problems. Ten points were given to entirely correct answers, and some credit was given to partially correct answers. Taylor's team scored 37 points, only two points short of the winning team from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Using genres of math ranging from geometry to trigonometry to calculus, the students worked both individually and collabora-



Photo by Noel Schutt

**DAVID AUKEMAN AND SHAWN ALSIPAUGH** figure out a math problem similar to the ones they worked on at the Indiana Collegiate Mathematics Contest. The team finished second out of 27.

tively to solve the difficult problems. "We divided up the work evenly between the three of us. There was good communication and we did well as a team," Aukeman said. "We started out individually, but when we got stuck, we asked each other for

help." Although the problems were definitely challenging, DeLong said, "Because we also competed last year, we kind of knew what to expect." Aukeman said that although he hoped they would make the top four or five, "I didn't think we would

place as high as we did." Taylor also had another team at the competition, comprised of Linnea Goddard, Brandon Carl and Bobby Cooper, which placed 13th.

Since the beginning of the semester, the math teams met every Tuesday with their advisor,

Assistant Mathematics Professor Matthew DeLong, to practice problems similar to those at the contest to become familiar with them.

"Dr. DeLong organized the teams, led practice sessions, trained us, gave suggestions and showed us new ways to solve problems," Aukeman said. "He really encouraged us and was a very supportive coach."

"They did pretty well last year, and I hoped they would make the top three this year. But I was surprised when they made second place," DeLong said. "Out of the 27 teams, only seven or eight teams got a problem completely right, and Taylor got three completely right, as well as some partial credit from other problems."

According to DeLong, about 15 to 20 colleges were represented at the contest including Purdue University, Indiana Wesleyan University and University of Indianapolis.

DeLong, Aukeman and Alspaugh plan on competing together again next year and hope to take first place in the contest.



# Opinion

"No, I cannot forget where it is I come from, I cannot forget the people who love me. Yeah, I can be myself here in this small town."

-John Cougar Mellencamp's 'Small Town'

## There's more than corn in Indiana

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

BY ADAM HANNA

I was born in Angola, Ind. and have lived in this state my whole life. I started playing basketball as soon as I could walk. I got my first fishing pole on my third birthday. I've filled my deer tags every year since I was 10. I am a Hoosier.

My love for the great outdoors has only continued to grow through my college years. My memories include hiking mountains in the Rockies and Appalachians, dodging moose in Maine and caving in upstate New York. I live on Third West, where shotguns and fishing poles are required for pick-a-dates. Wing retreats include paintballing and venison roasts. Taylor has taken me great places. The best times of my life have taken place right here in the "Crossroads of America."

The purpose of this column isn't to tell you how much I love

Indiana (although I could write all day on that), but to encourage you to explore this state while you're here and not to miss out on opportunities to see the beautiful land and waters outside the loop. Indiana State Parks have been a blessing to me. In high school, my cross-country practices were on the beautiful trails of Pokagon State Park. We've had our legendary Spring Fling pick-a-dates at Salamonie State

Reservoir, Pokagon State Park and Mounds State Park; this year's will be held at Ouabache State Park. Wing hiking and camping trips have been taken to Shades State Park and Turkey Run State Park, where rock

climbing and rugged hikes have heightened the relationships with my wingmates and friends.

I don't know how many times I've heard something about "the boring cornfields of Indiana." Well, that just blows my mind, because a) a sunset over a golden

cornfield is anything but boring, and b) there's more than corn in Indiana. When I hear "There's nothing to do unless you drive to Indy," I can

only bite my tongue and think about how the excitement of Indiana won't be found in any city.

The state of Indiana recently took a major cut-back in their funding for state parks this year.

**"I don't know how many times I've heard something about 'the boring cornfields of Indiana.'"**

## Alumnus disappointed in behavior

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

BY JASON HILLIER

Now in my third month as a Taylor alum, I have had some time to reflect on my excellent collegiate experience. I appreciate the many memories created during my time at TU. From amazing chapel services, to traveling with the Chorale, to going on floor pick-a-dates, I have very fond emotions for my alma mater and its purpose as an institution. Saying that will help explain my disappointment last Saturday afternoon.

I was walking across the gymnasium parking lot after a closely fought loss to Bethel College, when I overheard the game's umpires talking aloud. They

looked rather frustrated, and one said to the other, sarcastically, "I thought this was a religious institution!" Right away I knew what he was referring to. Throughout the course of the game, as some of our fans were insulting the work of the officials, and afterwards, as one of our players exchanged verbal jabs with the head umpire, an impression was being formed in the minds of the officiating crew about Taylor University as a whole. That impression was extremely negative.

Unfortunately, this event does not stand alone. During my time as a Taylor student, I was frequently disappointed by the attitudes displayed during sporting events. I have seen fans who

would pick out an opposing team's player and verbally lambaste him for shooting an air-ball or missing an open goal, coaches who would literally scream at the referee for making a bad call, or players who would bitterly curse opposing players. There is a line to be drawn between playing with intensity and playing with malice.

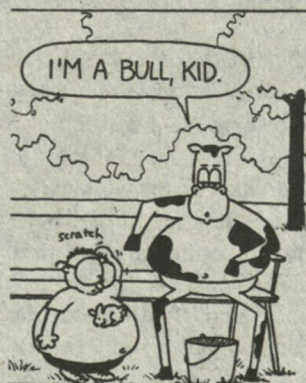
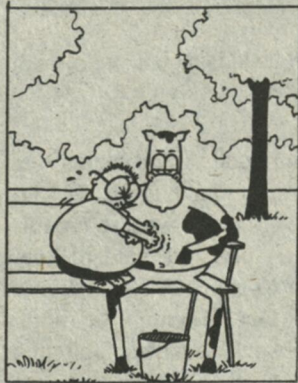
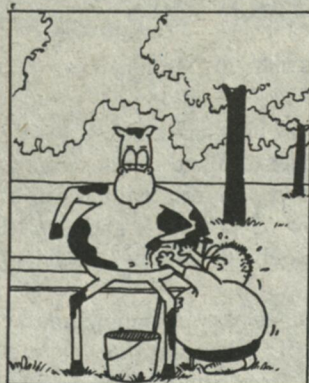
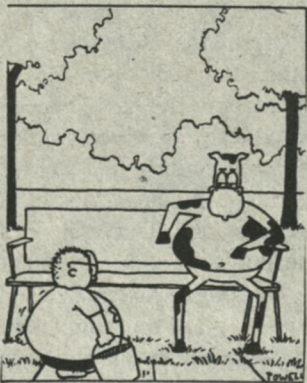
Please understand that I am not disappointed with every fan, coach and player ... only those who are representing my alma mater and, subsequently, Christianity, in a negative light. Every time a referee or an opposing team walks away from a sporting event with a disapproving sentiment about our community, a minority has represented

the majority in a way that I find shameful and disappointing.

After overhearing the umpires, I caught up to them and personally apologized for what had happened during the game. Although they may have made some bad calls, their human error did not merit the treatment they received. It is highly doubtful that my apology on behalf of Taylor's campus will transform the disdain felt by those umpires. I am deeply saddened by that fact. However, I hope the detrimental attitudes of the past will not be repeated, and an air of good sportsmanship mixed with Christian love will encompass every future competition.

By Noel Powell

### MISFITS



## THE ECHO

Abby McLaughlin  
Editor-in-chief

Sarah (The Hink) Hinkle  
Managing Editor

Karen (Piglet) Penner  
News Editor

Tim (Timdogg) Walter  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Julie Cooper  
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Matt (Matty Baby) Brandenberger  
Sports Editor

Ali Schweiss  
Business Manager

Ben Roche  
Distribution Manager

Noel Schutt  
Photographer

Bryan (Bry-dog) Smith  
Photographer

Julie Mitchell  
Copy Editor

Pamela Parry  
Faculty Adviser

*The mission of the Echo is to fairly and without bias represent the views of diverse voices on Taylor University's campus and to be a vehicle of accurate and pertinent information to the student body, faculty and staff. The Echo also aims to be a forum that fosters healthy discussion about relevant issues, acting as a catalyst for change on our campus.*

*The Echo has been published weekly since 1915, except for January term, exam week and school holidays, and is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press. The Echo is printed by the Fairmount News-Sun in Fairmount, IN. Offices are located in Rupp Communication Arts Building. All letters, questions or comments may be addressed to:*

*The Echo, Taylor University,  
236 W. Reade Ave., Upland, IN  
46989-1001.  
Phone: (765) 998-5359  
E-mail: echo@tayloru.edu*



# A&E

## Conversations at the 'Bean'

By TIM WALTER

ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

What started as a simple idea of wings gathering for prayer and sharing has blossomed into much more.

On February 19 "Conversations at the Bean" was started with the idea of giving students the opportunity to share what is happening in their spiritual journey with the people on their wing or floor. Since then different wings and floors have been meeting each evening Monday through Thursday.

Senior Kyle Martin, owner of the Jumping Bean, began meeting with three other guys to pray before the conversations that the "Lord will provide a change for our campus if we ask now, by being sensitive to the Holy Spirit." During this first meeting, hearts were opened for the wing that met, and the number of people praying before these meetings grew to include a strange variety

of people from all over campus.

At the same time, other groups had been meeting at different places to pray for Taylor's campus. The group meeting before the conversations continued to grow and the time when they met kept moving to earlier times. It is at this point that the prayer groups moved out to the field between the library and the DC. Many questions and rumors have been raised about these meetings, but according to Martin, "God is the only one being glorified. The theme Bible passage has been Colossians 4:2-6, 'devote yourselves to prayer.' On this campus people's lives have changed through prayer."

A concern that many have expressed is whether the events taking place at the meetings are Biblically sound. Many people on campus have sat back and pre-judged before Biblically testing. "Students need to learn that through immaturity we will learn and grow. The Holy Spirit is here

and in full effect," Martin said.

"There is just a large question mark over this campus that will change to an exclamation point."

The students involved believe to be comparable to a holy stick of dynamite with 2000 wicks. Slowly each one is being lit, and hearts are beginning to change. They believe at one point the "holy stick" will explode.

In response to the confusion that has surrounded what could be a campus revival, there will be a "Conversations at the Bean" for faculty, staff and administration on Thursday, May 3 at 7 p.m. in the union. It will be a time for faculty to share their faith and will include a question and answer time with some of the students involved in these prayer meetings. "We don't want this to be a divided thing. There is respect for the faculty and we want to learn from them," Martin said. He added that they hope to figure out the faculty's role in

"Decaffeinated coffee? Kinda like kissing your sister."

- Bob Irwin



SENIOR ADAM WITMER GETS FUNKY on his trombone during a solo at the spring Jazz concert held Thursday evening in the recital hall. The performance featured a variety of musical pieces ranging from laid back blues to a faster-paced be-bop.

## This is an age for spiritual heroes.



Now is the time for you to be heroic in faith and spiritual character. At Talbot, we understand that a seminary education doesn't come without its costs. To come to Talbot will take a financial and spiritual commitment. But there are few seminaries where you will find a team of professors who are as dedicated to training and mentoring authentic Christian leaders in mind and character. At Talbot, you will receive an education that effectively balances the development of the mind with intentional Christlike character formation. Check out Talbot and see for yourself.

(800) 652-4652

www.talbot.edu

**TALBOT**  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Biola University  
13800 Biola Avenue  
La Mirada, California 90639

01062

### The Attic Window Thrift Store

Good quality, low cost clothing, furniture and household items.

Hours: M-F 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

112 E Main St.

Hartford City

"Before you buy  
Give us a try!"

*They're Phat & You Get One Phree!*

**Buy One  
CHILI CHEESE BURRITO,  
Get One FREE**



*Sink your teeth into a  
Chili Cheese Burrito today!*

Offer expires 5/4/01. Offer good only at the TACO BELL® located at 6265 E. 500 South, Marion, IN. Offer excludes chicken and steak versions. Please present this coupon when ordering. Limit: One coupon per person per visit. Not good with any other offer. Void if copied, transferred or where prohibited. Cash redemption value 1/20th cent. ©2001 TACO BELL CORP. 076-1



# Sports

"Baseball has marked the time. This field, this game, is a part of our past, Ray. It reminds us of all that once was good, and could be again."

-James Earl Jones (Field of Dreams)

## Track team triumphs in invitational

By DEBBIE DOUGLASS

STAFF WRITER

It was a blustery Saturday, but the weekend winds did not prevent Taylor's track team from putting on an impressive performance last weekend at the annual Taylor Invitational or from having a little fun.

According to sophomore Mark Voss, the Taylor Invitational is a low-key meet. Taylor, Grace and Goshen came with their entire teams, while Adriane and Indiana Wesleyan were only partially represented. Traditionally, the final 4x400 relay has been termed the "banana relay." Why? Because everyone on the team is expected to participate, and while one group passes the traditional baton, every other group passes a banana. Why? Why not? The meet allows "some people to do events that they don't usually do," said Voss.

Amidst all the fun and games and gusts of wind, both the men's and women's track teams outran their opponents, earning several top 10 finishes. Senior Julie Nor achieved top 10 status in the 5,000 meter run, and junior Andrea Rea threw the ham-



Photoby Bryan Smith

**JAMES IMMORDINO RECEIVES THE BATON FROM SCOTT ARONSON** during last Saturday's Taylor Invitational. This weekend Taylor hosts the MCC Conference meet.

mer to place her name on the top 10 list. Sophomore John Wachtmann ran well in the 800 meter, senior Kip Rop had a strong showing in the steeplechase, and freshman Joe Keller threw the javelin for his win. Junior Christel Deal and freshman Rebecca Oehrig also placed

well in their events.

The track team is looking more seriously at this Saturday, when the MCC Conference meet will be held on Taylor's track. Both the men and women are confident going into the meet. The men's track team has won conference for the last six years.

According to Coach Bowers, they have a "deep team," and expect to place well in every area. In the field events, the Croatian brothers, Steve and Sinisa Ercegovac, are expected to crush the competition in the shot and discus. Sophomore John Miles will likely dominate the

high jump, and Keller, the javelin. The men will be looking to Rop in the distance events and Wachtmann in the middle distance to score some points. Junior Russ Boronow has had a superb season in sprints as has Voss in hurdles and jumps. The men are coming off a good season and are confident in their prospects for another conference victory.

Though the women cannot boast of the same stellar conference record as the men, they are excited about Saturday's meet and expect to show well. Coach Bowers was pleased with their performances last weekend. After a shaky season, much due to injury, the meet was a breakthrough for the women. They will enter the Conference meet on a high note, counting on Nor in the distance events and Rea in the field. Both girls have had spectacular seasons. Bethel will be the toughest competition for the ladies, whose goal is to finish among the top three. "If we all run our best, we have the potential to win," said senior Alysha Aalbrektse.

The MCC Conference meet this Saturday is your last chance to support the team at home.

## Softball's struggling

By BARRY WALSH

STAFF WRITER

"We are still really struggling from the offensive side of the plate," said Trojan head softball coach Joe Lund. The average fan could easily see this, as Taylor's record currently stands at 5-25 overall and 2-11 in the MCC.

Recently, the Lady Trojans have collected their fourth and fifth wins of the season. Their fifth win came in a split at Grace, where the Trojans lost the first game 4-0, but won the second game 5-4.

Lund said, "I think the Grace split was a step in the right direction. Instead of coming from behind we managed to hold onto a lead. We've had trouble doing that this season. We also got the win on the road, which makes the victory all the more impressive."

The Trojans were swept in double headers against Indiana Wesleyan on April 17, Bethel on

April 19, and St. Mary's of the Woods on the 21. They dropped a make-up game to Saint Francis on April 23.

The Lady Trojans earned their fourth win of the season in a split of a double header against Huntington on April 12. Taylor lost the first game 9-4, but managed to come back in the second to win by a score of 5-4.

Huntington jumped out to a 4-0 lead after two innings, but steady pitching by freshman Jackie Langdon and solid Trojan defense kept the Foresters off the scoreboard for the rest of the game.

Taylor struck back in the fourth, cutting the Foresters' lead to 4-1. The Trojans added the game-deciding runs in the sixth and seventh innings, when they scored two runs per inning to pull off an amazing 5-4 comeback victory.

Langdon pitched a complete

game on her way to her second win of the season. She finished the game with three earned runs, zero strikeouts and two walks.

Taylor's bats were led by seniors Ashley Lund and Anne Cummings and freshman Sarah Clark. All three finished with two hits.

Looking toward the home stretch of the season, Lund said, "Our defense and pitching has improved, but we still need to make improvements in our hitting. Our team batting average is only .243, and this makes it difficult to score runs."

"The tournament seeding occurs this weekend, and then next Thursday and Friday we will compete in the MCC double elimination tournament. We think we are capable of competing with any team that we will face, but we just need to capitalize on every offensive opportunity that comes our way."

## Baseball splits

By TAB BAMFORD

STAFF WRITER

Taylor's baseball team has won some good games in the last few weeks, but putting two together on the same afternoon has proved difficult. All that changed on Tuesday, as the Trojans got their brooms out and swept Grace out of Upland.

The Taylor juggernaut proved to be too much too often for the poor Grace pitchers. It didn't take long for the fun to begin either. In the first inning of the first game, the ball was escorted from the premises courtesy of a one-way ticket to beyond center field from senior Tony Dattilio. Four Trojans knocked in two runs, each of which individually equaled Grace's total in the 12-2 blowout. Junior Ryan Zeeb also thanked the pitcher for playing and deposited a ball in the "no return" section to compliment his two stolen bases on the day. Senior Jeremy Roberts earned his

fifth win of the year with a seven-hitter.

The second game was more of the same, as the sticks continued to sizzle for Taylor. Junior Tyson Jones led the route with four runs batted in, and Dattilio again escorted a ball from the building for his second homer of the day. Junior Ivar Isacson gave up two early runs and then settled down to allow only two hits in the next four innings. After the games, Dattilio said "It's been a big frustration this year to keep splitting double-headers. It feels good to win two games like this with big offenses in both games."

The Trojan squad again split a double header on Thursday against Anderson. Seniors Dan Rocke and Ike Welsh had strong pitching performances as the team won 4-2 in the first. The Trojans came back from a three run deficit to tie the second game at five, only to lose on a walk-off homerun.